LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1949

BY

ROBERT W. MACPHERSON

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1949

BY

ROBERT W. MACPHERSON

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

WORKINGTON STAR LTD.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b30293431

CONTENTS

	PAGES
STAFF	4
STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA Population; Birth Rate; Death Rate; Causes of Death of Infants under 1 year; Causes of Death over 65 years.	9—11
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA ..... Laboratory Facilities.	12
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA ..... Water Supply; Public Cleansing.	12—13
HOUSING	13—15
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD ..... Milk Supply; Ice Cream.	15—16
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES ..... Cancer; Notifiable Diseases in Age Groups and Wards; Tuberculosis.	16—21
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA ..... Inspections; Works Executed; Verminous Premises; Food Inspections.	22—26
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE OF DEATHS FOR 1949	26—27

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ROBERT W. MACPHERSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.
R. E. FLETCHER, M.B., Ch.B.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
§*RICHARD JAMES	Chief Sanitary Inspector.
§*PATRICK ELDON	Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
*CHARLES E. PEARSON ...	Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
Mrs. M. ROBINSON ...	Chief Clerk.
Miss M. TIERNEY	Clerk. (Resigned October, 1949).
Miss I. BRIGGS	Clerk. (Appointed October, 1949).

* Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

§ Certificate of Meat and Other Foods (R.S.I.).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1948-49.

Alderman L. Casson (Chairman).
The Mayor (Councillor A. Rowe).
Alderman S. Walker.
Councillor J. Askew.
,, A. V. Cattrell.
,, E. Graham.
,, Mrs. B. O. McKeating.
,, H. H. McManus.
,, Mrs. M. A. Smith.
,, D. Vickers.
,, A. Young.

Mrs. E. Appleby, C.C.
Mr. J. J. Adams, J.P., C.A. } *Co-opted Members from Cumberland County Council.*

Mr. J. R. Cockfield, Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Workington,
June, 1950.

To the Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1949.

This will be my last Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough, as I retire on the 30th June, 1950.

It is interesting to go back 29½ years, when I was appointed Medical Officer of Health, and to make a few comparisons with that time and the present.

Vital Statistics.

For example, the general Death Rate has improved from 15.2 per 1,000 to 13.0 per 1,000 population.

The Infantile Mortality Rate shows a remarkable reduction from 113 to 47.7 per 1,000 infants under one year, less than half the Infantile Death Rate of 30 years ago.

The Birth Rate in 1920 was 19.6 per 1,000 population. This is the highest birth rate recorded, and although the rate has fluctuated, there has been a tendency for the rate to decrease—averaging about 17 per 1,000.

Infectious Diseases.

With regard to infectious disease, Workington was indeed a "black spot" thirty years ago.

Diphtheria was epidemic, and during the year 1920 there were 156 notifications and 17 deaths from this disease. The high number of notifications was reduced in the following four years, as follows:—71—33—52—12. Over the five-year period 1920-1924 there were 324 notifications and 48 deaths from Diphtheria, compared with 17 notifications and no deaths during the last five years.

Of the other chief infectious diseases, Scarlet Fever (with the exception of the year 1925 when there was an epidemic) has come down to a small number of cases annually, and is now looked upon as a mild illness.

Typhoid Fever gave more cause for consideration in 1926 when there were 11 cases. Apart from this, odd cases have occurred from time to time, and mostly of the para-typhoid variety.

The only other item of note, under the infectious disease heading, was the epidemic of Smallpox in West Cumberland in 1924, which spread to Workington from a neighbouring village. The number of cases in Workington was 105 out of 185 cases in West Cumberland. Fortunately, the type of infection was mild (variolar minor) and the isolation of the cases gave more trouble than the nursing of the illness.

HOUSING.

A great deal of slum property has been dealt with, but the outbreak of the Second World War prevented the Local Authority from completing its programme of dealing with unfit houses.

The number of houses below standard is increasing, and the difficulty of getting repairs carried out and the high cost involved, are making the housing position much more difficult.

The number of houses built by the Corporation since the end of the First World War is 1,698—a very good effort, but it is not enough. With the increasing number of persons applying for houses, and the gradual deterioration of property, one cannot, at the moment, see the end of the housing problem, unless the present building programme is substantially increased.

There is one other item of importance I would like to refer to in my report on the Health Services of the Borough, namely, unemployment.

In the years after the First World War unemployment was one of the social evils of the Borough. Workington, at that time, depended to a great extent on the Steel Works, and to a smaller extent on the Collieries, for the employment of men. There was practically no call for female work, except in shops, offices, and domestic service.

Now the position is totally different. The Steel Works are on continuous production. The factories built for the manufacture of war materials are now turned

over to peace-time production. New industries have come into the town, and there is plenty of work for women and young girls. Wages are higher, and the general living conditions of the normal worker have greatly improved. These improved conditions for the work people engaged in industry have, no doubt, contributed to the better health conditions which we have to-day.

Finally, it is gratifying for me to state that I retire from my official position, as Medical Officer of Health, knowing that the health records of Workington compare most favourably with those of similar industrial towns in the Country.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Staff of the Health Department for their conscientious and loyal service, and my appreciation to the Officials of other Departments for their kind help and co-operation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT W. MACPHERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 population.	Death Rate per 1,000 population.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.
WORKINGTON	18.13	13.01	47.7
England and Wales ...	16.7	11.7	32

Area (in acres) 5,641

Population (R.G.'s Estimate, 1949) 28,900

Vital Statistics.

Births.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births	524	269	255
Legitimate	507	258	249
Illegitimate	17	11	6

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population = 18.13.

Still Births.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	12	10	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	12	10	2
	—	—	—

Deaths.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths	376	204	172
	—	—	—
	—	—	—

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 (live and still births).
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other Puerperal Causes	1	1.8

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	47.7
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	47.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	58.8
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	57
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	4
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	4

DETAILS OF CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total Under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
Measles	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	..	...	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	..	...	1
Diphtheria	..	..	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	1	1		..	2
Laryngitis	..	...	...	...	...	..	..	.	...	...
Bronchitis	..	..	...	...	...	...	...			
Pneumonia	...	.	.	1	1	2	2	1	1	7
Diarrhœa	..	..	.	...	..	..	...	...	..	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...			...	...	...	...
Gastritis	..	..		..		...	..	1	1	1	3
Suffocation, overlaying		...	..	...		...	...	..		...	...
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	..	...		.	..	...		...	2
Congenital Malformations		2	...	...	...	2		1	1		4
Premature Birth	..	8	...	...		8	...	...			8
Other Causes	..	...		...			...	...	...		...
TOTAL	...	10	...	...	1	11	4	5	3	2	25

DEATHS OF RESIDENTS IN AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 Year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	Total
Males	17	1	2	5	19	55	105	204
Females	8	2	3	4	11	52	92	172
Total	25	3	5	9	30	107	197	376

CAUSES OF DEATH OVER 65 YEARS.

CAUSE OF DEATH	65-70	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90	90 and over	Total
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	7	11	6	3	1	...	28
Heart Disease	18	27	22	11	2	...	80
Cancer	10	9	8	5	...	...	32
Bronchitis	...	4	1	..	...	..	5
Pneumonia	1	2	...	1	...	.	4
Senility	1	4	7	14	7	4	37
Suicide ..	...	...	...		...	...	...
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...		...	...
Other Defined Diseases ...	1	3	1	2	1		8
TOTAL ...	40	60	45	37	11	4	197

SECTION B.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following specimens were forwarded to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle, during the year 1949:—

Sputa for Tuberculosis	115
Swabs for Diphtheria	5
Miscellaneous	6
	126

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

In my previous Annual Report I referred to the new Reservoir at Winscales. This Reservoir with a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons has now been completed.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information in regard to this scheme.

The work in connection with the laying of the 18in. rising main will commence at an early date, and a suitable proportion of the 12in. distribution main has already been laid. The pumping station is approaching completion, and the pumps have been installed. It is anticipated that early in the year 1951 this scheme should be in operation.

I further reported in my Annual Report of last year that the Councils of the Local Authorities concerned had decided that the water supplied from Crummock Lake should be treated by an efficient chlorination plant, and that an incrustation prevention plant be also installed. I am able to report that tenders for the construction of these plants are expected at an early date.

Refuse Collection.

The system of refuse collection has been the subject of criticism in annual reports an numerous occasions, but practically nothing has been done to improve the position. The types of refuse receptacles, the ash carts, and the times of collection have all been mentioned for consideration. The change which took place a few years ago of cutting down, in some areas of the town, the bi-weekly to weekly collection, has caused the contents of refuse bins to become a nuisance. This is especially so in warm weather when the refuse quickly becomes decomposed, and foul smelling, giving rise to unhealthy conditions.

Refuse Disposal.

The refuse tip area on the Cloffocks is nearly filled up, and another site for disposal of refuse is required at a very early date.

When one has seen the unsatisfactory condition, and experienced for many years the smell, smoke fumes, presence of rats, and general untidiness of the Cloffocks Refuse Tip, it is no small wonder that the inhabitants of the town definitely oppose a refuse tip anywhere near their dwellings.

The Council has had under consideration, on several occasions, this difficult question of refuse disposal. The three main methods of disposal, viz., refuse destructor, carrying the refuse out to sea, and controlled tipping, have all been debated at the Council Meetings.

In a town of the size of Workington it would appear that the method of controlled tipping is the most satisfactory method of disposal of the town's refuse.

SECTION D.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 565

(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose 2542

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ..... Nil

(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation 562

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or other officers 518

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs . 44

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners 44

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners ..... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 3

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground room in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... Nil

---

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Continued supervision has been given to all premises where food is stored, prepared or sold, and more than 1,500 inspections have been made during the year.

Milk Supply.

The number of milk producers in the Borough is 19, and there are 32 retailers. Tubercular tested milk is produced on 5 farms, and accredited milk is produced on 2 farms. Bottled pasteurised milk is sold by 17 retailers; bottled pasteurised tuberculin tested milk by 13; bottled tuberculin tested milk by 2; loose tuberculin tested milk by 3; loose accredited milk by 2, and loose ungraded milk by 8.

It is very gratifying to note the increase in the sale of bottled milk and the use of the metal disc covering the entire neck of the bottle instead of the unwaxed and absorbent cardboard discs.

During the year 68 samples of milk were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination, and 29 proved satisfactory to the prescribed tests. Of the 39 samples declared unsatisfactory, 24 failed the methylene blue test, 6 the bacillus coli test, and 9 failed both tests. Much time has again been spent investigating the causes of adverse results.

Ice Cream.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations have received the full co-operation of the trade, and the reports by the Chief Sanitary Inspector are very satisfactory.

Seventeen samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination—10 being placed in Grade I, 4 in Grade II and 1 in Grade IV. Samples placed in Grades I and II can be regarded as satisfactory.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The chief points of interest regarding the prevalence of infectious diseases were as follows:—

Scarlet Fever.

There were twenty-one notifications of Scarlet Fever, compared with nineteen in the previous year. Eleven cases were removed to Hospital. The infection was of a mild type, and there were no deaths from this disease.

Diphtheria.

Only one notification of Diphtheria was received, and after a period of treatment in Hospital this case recovered. There has been no death from Diphtheria for over five years.

Typhoid Fever.

There was no case of Typhoid Fever during 1949.

Acute Polio-Encephalitis.

Two cases of Acute Polio-Encephalitis were notified. Both were removed to Hospital, and recovered from the illness.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There was one case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, which, at a later date, recovered. This case was treated at Carlisle Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Measles.

Ninety-three cases of Measles were notified. Most of these cases occurred at the beginning of the year. There were no deaths from Measles.

Whooping Cough.

Seventy-four notifications of Whooping Cough were received. There were four deaths from this disease.

Chickenpox.

There were seventy-two notifications of Chickenpox during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Only one notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was received.

Cancer.

The number of deaths from Cancer was 57, nine more than in the previous year.

The following table shows the number of deaths from Cancer, according to age and sex distribution:—

Age Group.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
30—40 years	1	1	2
40—50 years	1	4	5
50—60 years	3	6	9
60—70 years	10	7	17
70—80 years	8	10	18
80—90 years	1	5	6
	24	33	57

Localisation of Disease in Cancer Deaths.

	M.	*F.*	*Total.*
Cancer of Mouth and Oesophagus	7	—	7
Cancer of Uterus	—	7	7
Cancer of Stomach	3	2	5
Cancer of the Breast	—	7	7
Cancer of all other sites	14	17	31
	24	33	57

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS AND WARDS during the year.

DISEASE.	AGE PERIODS												WARDS.							Total Cases Notified.	Removed to Hospital	Deaths.
	Under 1 year	1 — 2	2 — 3	3 — 4	4 — 5	5 — 10	10 — 15	15 — 20	20 — 35	35 — 45	45 — 65	65 and over	St. John's North	St. John's South	St Michael's West	St. Michael's East	Seaton Ward	South Ward	Harrington Ward			
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	1	—	2	6	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	3	1	8	1	21	11	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	4	4	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		—	—	1	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	2	14	5	11	2	3	6	3	5	8	10	3	38	10	16
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Chickenpox	4	3	6	6	11	33	6	1	1	1	—	—	17	21	6	8	—	19	1	72	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	2	1	1	—	2	—	6	—	—
Ophthal. Neonat'rm	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	2	2		—	1	—	—	2	1	4	7	1	—	4	3	3	3	7	—	20	—	15
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	10	10	7	15	15	16	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	21	6	—	38	6	74	—	4
Measles ..	6	14	21	15	16	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	4	14	7	15	22	20	93	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	8	—	9	—	
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

Tuberculosis.

Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis were as follows:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M	F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	2	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
20—25	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
25—35	4	7	...	...	1	2	...	...
35—45	3	2	...	...	1	...		
45—55	4	3		...	2	1	...	...
55—65	3	1	1		2	2	...	...
65 & over.	1	1		...			...	...
Total	21	17	1	...	7	9	...	...

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

	St. John's North	St. John's South	St. Michael's West	St. Michael's East	South Ward	Seaton Ward	Harrington Ward	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		1	1	2	6	4	2	16
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The following table shows the number of Tuberculosis cases on the Register at December 31st, 1949 :—

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			Total Cases on Register.
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
64	41	105	27	32	59	164

SANATORIUM TREATMENT.

	In Institutions 1st. Jan. 1949.	Admitted.	Discharged	Died	In Institutions 31st Dec. 1949.
Pulmonary Cases—					
Adult Males ...	10	6	10	1	5
Adult Females	7	3	4	1	5
Children ..	3	...	2	1	..
Non-Pulmonary Cases					
Adult Males .	...	...	...	..	..
Adult Females ...	...	...			...
Children ..	...	1	1	...	...
TOTAL ..	20	10	17	3	10

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

To R. W. Macpherson, Esq., M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I herewith submit the following statement showing the number and nature of inspections, etc., during the 1949 year, also the number of notices served and the various items dealt with:—

General Inspections	1473
Inquiries re Infectious Diseases, Disinfection of Premises, etc.	137
Testing drains	207
Cinemas	22
Socials Clubs and Hotels	51
Schools	87
Factories	426
Bakehouses	163
Offensive Trades	74
Stables and Piggeries	157
Rat Infested Premises	245
Verminous Premises	257
Knacker's Yard	85
Houses Let in Lodgings	143
Fish and Chip Shops	211
Shops Visited re Shops Act	141
Food and Drugs Act	285
Shops Visited re Meat and other Foods	227
Market Stalls and Carts	64
Cowsheds and Dairies	212
Ice Cream	187
Caravans	102
Interviews with Owners, Tradesmen, etc.	642
Revisits	2542
Samples of Milk for Bacteriological Examination	68
Smoke Observations	77

Notices Served.

Informal Notices	565
Statutory Notices	44

At the end of the year 98 informal notices remained to be dealt with.

The attention of the Borough Surveyor has been called to the following defects:—

Dangerous premises	1
Choked Sewers or Street Gullies	10
Waste or Poor Pressure of Water, Defective Stop Taps, etc.	6
Removal of Refuse, etc.	21
Repairs to Corporation Property	14

Summary of Works Executed.

Drainage, etc.:—

Drains relaid	35
Cleansed or repaired	69
New gullies	32
Cleared by vacuum pump free of cost to owner	75
New sinks fixed	27
Waste pipes renewed or fixed	12
Ventilation pipe renewed	1

Water Closets:—

Repaired or cleansed	39
Cisterns repaired or renewed	45
Service pipes repaired	41
New basins fixed	82
Flush pipes renewed	2
Leaking joints repaired	30
Seats repaired or renewed	19
Doors repaired or renewed	10
Floors repaired or renewed	5
Cleansed or limewashed	11
New traps fixed	4

Roofs	29
Soilpipes	11
Plasterwork	14
Walls	19

Houses:—

Roofs repaired	107
Chimneys repaired	21
Spouts cleansed or repaired	78
Window frames repaired or renewed	28
Sashcords renewed	23
Ceilings repaired or renewed	24
Exterior walls remedied of dampness	35
Interior walls remedied of dampness	69
Wall plaster remedied	37
Kitchen ranges repaired	29
Insufficient water supply	37
Floors repaired or renewed	35
Yard walls repaired or renewed	11
Doors repaired or renewed	25
Steps renewed	2
Staircases repaired	7
Yard surfaces renewed	24
Wash boilers renewed	27
Caravans removed	15
Animals or refuse removed	19

Verminous Premises.

Owing to the presence of vermin (bugs, fleas, etc.) 123 houses were disinfested by this department. The number of Council houses found infested by bugs was 10, other houses 20.

The disinfestation methods employed are the same as outlined in a previous report. All fluids used have D.D.T. incorporated.

Factories Act, 1937.

Number on Register	235
Inspections made	589
Notices given	40
Prosecutions	Nil
Outworkers	2
Classification of Defects:—	
Want of cleanliness	13
Overcrowding	1
Unreasonable temperature	Nil
Inadequate ventilation	2
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences:—	
(a) insufficient	4
(b) unsuitable or defective	13
(c) not separate for sexes	2
Fire Escapes	5

Inspection of Foodstuffs.

A regular inspection has been made of all premises where food is prepared, stored or sold. The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption:—

Beef (1447lbs.).
Bacon (11lbs.).
Pork (420lbs.).
Pigs' Feet (80lbs.).
Halibut (34lbs.).
Cod (448lbs.).
Rabbits (8lbs.).
Butter (1lb.).
Frozen Ducks (49lbs.).
Frozen Chickens (35lbs.).
Ice Cream
50 doz. brickettes).
Oatmeal (5lbs.).
Raisins (30lbs.).
Brawn (8lbs.).
Flour (700lbs.).
Cheese ($\frac{1}{2}$lb.).
Chocolate ($8\frac{1}{4}$lbs.).
Cherries (24lbs.).
Rice (224 lbs.).
Eggs (87).
Cake ($22\frac{1}{2}$lbs.).
Dried Peas (112lbs.).
Milk (7 gallons).
Prawns (48lbs.).
Tomatoes (72lbs.).
Vegetables (29 tins).
Cherries (3 tins).
Pears (38 tins).
Apples (8 tins).
Tomato Juice (4 tins).
Peaches (10 tins).
Tomatoes (10 tins).
Orange Juice (3 tins).
Apricots (9 tins).
Oranges (1 tin).

Plums (53 tins).
Grapefruit (9 tins).
Grapes (30 tins).
Beetroot (4 tins).
Peas (155 tins).
Beans (120 tins).
Spaghetti (13 tins).
Rhubarg (5 tins).
Carrots (41 tins).
Herrings (5 tins).
Snoek (5 tins).
Crawfish (11 tins).
Sardines (7 tins).
Salmon (19 tins).
Pilchards (16 tins).
Whale Steak (6 tins).
Sild (2 tins).
Bristling (3 tins).
Mussels (2 tins).
Frozen Egg (2 tins).
Coffee (3 tins).
Xmas Pudding (1).
Puffed Wheat (2 packets).
Semolina (32 packets).
Sandwich Spread (108 bottles).
Pudding Mixture (360 packets).
Malt Cup (144 jars).
Mincemeat (49 jars).
Pickles (21 jars).
Date Puddings (2 tins).
Salad Cream (53 jars).
Jam or Marmalade (35 jars).
Soup (117 tins).
Dried Egg (2 tins).
Stewed Steak (20 tins).
Minced Beef Loaf (8 tins).
Veal & Ham Loaf (17 tins).
Potted Meat (1 tin).
Corned Beef (1 tin).
Pork (2 tins).
Tongue (2 tins).
Rabbit (1 tin).
Tomato Ketchup (17 tins).
Meat or Fish Pastes (10 jars/tins).
Milk (860 tins).

The approximate weight of foodstuffs condemned was $2\frac{3}{4}$ tons, an increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ ton over the preceding year.

In all cases Certificates were issued under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, to the respective vendors, and as far as possible Ministry of Food Circular M.F. 3/4 has been followed regarding salvage of unsound foods.

(Signed) RICHARD JAMES,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE OF DEATHS IN WORKINGTON AREA FOR THE YEAR 1949.

	Males.	Females
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—

Whooping Cough	3	1
Diphtheria	—	—
T.B. of Respiratory System	8	7
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	4
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
Influenza	2	1
Measles	—	—
Ac. Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	1	—
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	7	—
Cancer of Uterus	—	7
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	2
Cancer of Breast	—	7
Cancer of all other sites	14	17
Diabetes	1	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	24	22
Heart Diseases	53	46
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	8	—
Bronchitis	6	11
Pneumonia	11	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	6	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	5	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	4	—
Appendicitis	1	—
Other Digestive Diseases	4	6
Nephritis	5	5
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	1
Premature Birth	3	3
Congenital Malformation: Birth Injury—Infant Diseases	4	4
Suicide	3	—
Road Traffic Accidents	—	1
Other Violent Causes	8	1
All Other Causes	19	18
Total	204	172